(SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Nothing specific has come to the notice of the Government so far in this regard.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Strengthening the BSF

2816. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take steps for modernisation and strengthening the Border Security Force particularly its Water and Air Wings in the background of massive smuggling of explosives and other materials to assist terrorists and fundamentalist elements operating in the borders; and

(b) if so, by when better boats and aircrafts are likely to be provided to the Border Security Forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Modernisation and strengthening of the Border Security Force, particularly its Water and Air Wings, is a continuous and on-going process.

(b) In the recent past BSF has been sanctioned 43 speed boats, 2 medium crafts, 5 mechanised boats, 9 country boats, 61 engine fitted country boats and 14 motor vehicles besides 423 additional posts under its expansion programme. The additional boats and crafts sanctioned recently are in the process of procurement.

Proposals to Solve Karbi Anglo Anglong-DI

2817. SHRI G. G. SWELL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Assam Chief Minister has made certain proposals to solve the Karbi Anglong-dimasa problem;

(b) whether these proposals have been accepted by the Karbi Anglong District Council as well as the Autonomous State Demand Council;

(c) whether the Central Government was also a party to the negotiations; and

(d) what are the snags preventing incorporation of proposals into an accord?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) (a) to (d) The Central Government have not received any proposals from the Chief Minister of Assam relating to solution specifically of the Karbi Anglong-Dimasa problem. Proposals have, however, been received from the Government of Assam for granting more powers and autonoumy to the Autonomous District Councils in Assam under the provisions of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution.

Demand for Autonomous District Council for Leh

2818. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is wide spread resentment among the people of Leh on the Government's inability to grant the status of Autonomous Hill District Council for Leh;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in the matter;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is mass dissatisfaction in the Ladakh region due to its complete neglect; and

(d) if so, what remedial steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d) There was an agitation in Ladakh in July, 1989 by the people of Ladakh seeking union territory status on the plea that the region was neglected by the State Government on all fronts. This demand was dropped, pursuant to a tripartite agreement between the Central Government, the State Government and the representatives of the Ladakh Budhist

Association in which, among other issues, it was also decided that the issue of setting up appropriate institutional arrangements in Ladakh, which would enable stepping up the pace of development and help to preserve the cultural heritage and meet the aspirations of the people of the Region, would also be considered. A series of official level meetings were held in this regard with representatives of the Region and officials of the State Government. A consensus was reached in the last meeting, held on 8-9 October, 1993 in the presence of the Union Home Minister, to set up an Autonomous Hill Council for Leh. Pursuant upon this, the State Government will take further steps to draw up a legislation for the purpose which would also have provision to enable similar arrangement for the Kargil district.

Setting up of joint Indo-Bangladesh Consultative Machinery

2819. SHRI G.G. SWELL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have mooted the proposal for setting up of a Joint Indo-Bangladesh consultative machinery to constantly monitor and exchange details on insurgency, infiltration, smuggling and transborder crimes; and

(b) if so, whether Bangladesh has accepted the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) During the visit of Home Secretary to Bangladesh in October, 1993, both sides inter-alia, agreed that: (i) the Home Secretaries would meet once a year; (ii) a Joint Working Group (JWG) would be set up to meet twice a year to examine, in depth, all outstanding issues and recommend practical measures for resolving them; and (iii) Director General level meetings between Bangladesh Rifles and Border Security Force may be held twice a year.

Robbery Cases in North Eastern Frontier and North Eastern Railways

2820. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of robbery cases have been taken place in the North eastern Frontier Railways and North Eastern Railways during the last two years;

(b) if so, what steps are proposes to be taken to check such robbery cases;

(c) whether the Railway Protection Forces are insufficient to protect the travelling passengers from such anti-social activities; and

(d) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) (a) train-wise/ Zone-wise information on robberies is not compiled by the Central Government.

(b) to (d) Registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes on the railways is the responsibility of the Government Railway Police which functions under the control of the respective State Governments. It is also their duty to take effective steps to protect the travelling passengers from such anti-social activities.

Indian Citizenship to Chakma Refugees

2821. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government are intending to grant Indian citizenship to Chakma refugees who are settled in different parts of the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?